

REMARKS

Claims 2-25 are pending in this application. Claims 2-25 stand rejected. By this Amendment, claims 23-25 have been amended and claims 5 and 21 have been canceled without prejudice. The amendments made to the claims were not made to define over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to the claims have been made to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Claims 2-4, 6-10, 12, and 23-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0103519 ("Balasundram"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Among the limitations of independent claims 23-25 not present in either the AAPA or Balasundram is:

wherein the load control data and the pilot data are transmitted in units of frames, and wherein the load control data frames and the pilot data frames are transmitted using time-division multiplexing; and

wherein a first portion of data transmitted in a frame is intended for a first, second semiconductor chip, and a second portion of the data transmitted in this frame is intended for a second, second semiconductor chip

The Office Action asserts that the above-recited limitations are disclosed in Balasundram and particularly in paragraphs 7 and 39. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Paragraph [0007] of Balasundram describes a system in which a train of pulses which are encoded using for example pulse width or pulse modulation techniques is transmitted by a transmitter. This means that, in contrast to the feature in

claim 5 now incorporated in claims 23-25, the data is not transmitted in units of frames. Therefore, paragraph [0007] of Balasundram can not disclose that a first portion of data transmitted in a frame is intended for a first, second semiconductor chip, and a second portion of the data transmitted in this frame is intended for a second, second semiconductor chip.

Paragraph [0039] of Balasundram describes a system in which data are transmitted in units of messages. Each message is, however, intended for a single device. More specifically, as is literally described in paragraph [0039] of Balasundram, that each message has a leading byte which signifies the "address" for the message. This is an identifier address that is unique to the communicating transmitter and receiver pairs and ensures that the receiver ignores all signals not preceded by this address. Therefore, it is impossible that various portions of a message are intended for different devices. Thus, the cited combination does not render the pending claims obvious.

Applicants have responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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